

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

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FM AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6355

INFO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY ROME

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, MZ, UK, IT, HUM

SUBJECT: MOZAMBIQUE BILATERAL AGREEMENTS WITH UK, ITALY, HUNGARY

1. IN RECENT DAYS, THE MOZAMBIQUE PRESS HAS ANNOUNCED THREE COOPERATION AGREEMENTS WITH EUROPEAN COUNTRIES, ITALY, HUNGARY, AND ON OCTOBER 18, THE UK.

2. THE ITALIAN GOVERNMENT PROVIDED A GRANT OF \$11,250 FOR RECONSTRUCTION OF LIMPOPO VALLEY AREAS DAMAGED BY THE FEBRUARY FLOODS AND BY RHODESIAN MILITARY OPERATIONS. ITALY ALSO PROMISED 5,000 TONS OF WHEAT AND UNSPECIFIED MEDICINES. ITALIAN TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PERSONNEL ARE ALREADY IN MOZAMBIQUE, AND THE PRESS REPORT SAID MORE ARE EXPECTED.

3. ON OCTOBER 14, FERENC BARTHA, CHIEF OF A HUNGARIAN DELEGATION WHICH HAD BEEN VISITING MOZAMBIQUE, SIGNED AN UNDERSTANDING OUTLINING GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF A COOPERATION AGREEMENT, UNDER WHICH HUNGARY WOULD AID IN THE DEVELOPMENT
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OF A PHARMACEUTICAL INDUSTRY IN MOZAMBIQUE. JOAO BAPTISTA COSME, DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION SIGNED THE AGREEMENT FOR MOZAMBIQUE.

4. THE VISIT OF JUDITH HART, UK MINISTER FOR OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT, CULMINATED OCTOBER 18 WITH THE SIGNING OF A COOPERATION AGREEMENT, PROVIDING A POUND 5 MILLION INTEREST

FREE LOAN WITH A SEVEN YEAR GRACE PERIOD. THE NEW LOAN SUPPLEMENTS A POUND 15 MILLION SOF LOAN GIVEN TO MOZAMBIQUE LAST YEAR AND WILL BE USED TO PURCHASE SPARE PARTS AND MAINTENANCE EQUIPMENT FOR BRITISH PRODUCTS PURCHASED UNDER PREVIOUS LOAN. MARCELINO DOS SANTOS, MINISTER OF DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC PLANNING JOINED MS HART IN SIGNING THE AGREEMENT, WHICH RECEIVED FRONT-PAGE GOVERAGE--- MORE FAVORABLE THAN WHEN THE INITIAL ACCORD WAS SIGNED LAST YEAR. MS HART SPENT 4 DAYS TOURING MOZAMBIQUE, TALKING WITH DEVELOPMENT OFFICIALS AND GENERALLY RENEWING HER CONTACTS WITH SENIOR MOZAMBIQUE OFFICIALS. ALTHOUGH MS HART DID NOT SEE PRESIDENT MACHEL (WHO IS CURRENTLY ON VACATION OUT OF MAPUTO), BRITISH EMBASSY ASSESS HER STAY AS VERY SUCCESSFUL.

5. COMMENT: ALL OF THESE ARRANGEMENTS HAVE BEEN IN THE WORKS FOR SOME TIME AND REPRESENT NO CHANGE IN MOZAMBIQUE'S POLICY OF ACCEPTING ASSISTANCE FROM WESTERN AND COMMUNIST DONORS.CARSON

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